

E . A . C . NEWS

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Please keep



praying for Haiti

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NJOKO TAKES BARBADOS BY STORM

South African gospel singer and fashion designer Musa Njoko took Barbados by storm during her one week visit to this small Caribbean island. The first Zulu gospel singer to minister in the Caribbean, Njoko was embraced by Barbadians who were captivated by her music and her testimony.

Ministering twice at The People's Cathedral and on her final night at the Abundant Life Assembly, Njoko took those who attended into an authentic African worship experience singing in Zulu and using African rhythms to enliven her performances. Audiences danced and sang along with her as this petite woman opened her heart and allowed God to use her again and again.

On July 25 Njoko went to the first morning service at The People's Cathedral to sing one song. To her astonishment Pastor André Symmonds then asked her to

share her testimony and sing again. Njoko then shared for 30 minutes how God has enabled her to rise above HIV, AIDS, TB and other adversity. This service was attended by about 2,000 and was broadcast "live" on Praise FM in St. Vincent to St. Vincent and surrounding Caribbean countries and streamed on the internet.

At every opportunity Njoko shared her testimony of courage, hope and faith as she told of her battle with HIV which she contracted in late 1993. Many have commented that as she shared openly and frankly their own opinions were changed about the disease. Persons living with HIV also told her how her courage and faith has encouraged them in their fight with HIV in their own bodies.

Bishop Gerry Seale, Secretary General of the Evangelical Association of the Caribbean (EAC), commented, "Musa has changed the at-

mosphere in Barbados as it relates to HIV. Her courage and her life of hard work and success have shown Barbadians that HIV is a disease that can be prevented and can be controlled. She has also demonstrated in her life that HIV is not an impenetrable barrier to living life in abundance, achieving one's goals and aspirations, and fulfilling one's God-given destiny."



EAC LAUNCHES REPORT AT UN HOUSE

More than 25 heads of Evangelical Christian denominations and agencies in Barbados gathered at UN House, Marine Gardens for the Barbados launch of the report on the research done by EAC's Caribbean Youth Network on the sexual practices of youth at-

tending Evangelical churches in Antigua, St. Lucia and St. Vincent. This follows the same research in 2006 in Barbados.

Mr. Tom Olsen, UNICEF Representative to Barbados and the East Caribbean, lauded the work done by EAC and urged leaders present to use the

survey results to empower the youth they lead.

Bishop Gerry Seale, in presenting the findings of the survey, noted that for the first time Caribbean Evangelicals now had the opportunity for evidence-based responses to the critical issues surrounding sexuality.

MICAH DAY OF PRAYER & ACTION FOR THE POOR

Micah Challenge is calling millions of Christians to a day of prayer and action against extreme poverty as part of a global event. The international Christian response on October 10 will remind political leaders of 189 nations about crucial promises made to halve extreme poverty by 2015.

This global movement was launched at the United Nations in 2004 and holds 40 national campaigns each reflecting a wide range of participants. It is recognised by political leaders and governments all over the globe,

including the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon, the Prime Minister of Australia, Kevin Rudd, and the former British Prime Minister, Gordon Brown. The Micah 2010 campaign is also being backed by key church movements such as the Assemblies of God, Salvation Army, Hillsong, Youth With A Mission, Scripture Union, and YFC Europe. Micah Challenge also works closely with the Anglican Communion at the United Nations. Development agencies pledging to partner with Micah Challenge

include Tearfund, World Vision, Christian Aid and Compassion.

On October 10, 2010 (10.10.10,) 100 million Christians will be praying the same words of a prayer and making as many as 10 million promises to remember the poor. They will remind up to 1,000 political leaders to take action on poverty commitments made through the Millennium Development Goals. Five signature events are being planned to highlight the day in Australia, India, South Africa, the UK and Ecuador. Micah Challenge's Inter-

national Director, Joel Edwards, said: "The campaign in October will come three weeks after a crucial review of our performance so far at a United Nations Leaders Summit in New York. The world will be assessing how we are doing in fulfilling our promises. 10.10.10 offers us an opportunity for robust and prophetic engagement around the promises made to the poor, as well as to offer critical evaluations of world government responses. This is why our prayer, promise and action are both timely and potentially transformational."

MUSA NJOKO IMPACTS GUYANA

Musa Njoko, South African Zulu gospel singer, fashion designer and HIV activist, made Guyana her initial stop on her first visit to the Caribbean. As the first Zulu gospel singer to visit the region, Njoko was warmly welcomed everywhere she went, constantly answering in the affirmative the question, "Are you a real African?"

Njoko's primary reason for visiting Guyana was to take part in the EDGE Youth Conference around

the theme "Don't judge me, you don't know me." EDGE stands for Every Day God Experience.

On Sunday, July 18 Njoko gave her first gospel concert in the Caribbean at Central Assembly of God, Georgetown, Guyana. Hundreds turned out to meet this powerful African woman with the golden voice. As Njoko sang and shared her testimony of courage, faith and hope in the face of being infected with HIV many lives were changed and the public perception of HIV

began to change.

Njoko had the opportunity to speak to the nation of Guyana in two "live" television interviews – one for 45 minutes and the other for 30 minutes. About half the population of Guyana watched these two shows.

While in Guyana Njoko co-facilitated a workshop on sexuality with Bishop Gerry Seale, Secretary General of EAC. This workshop was held at Heavenly Light World Outreach Ministries in Albouystown in the heart of a ghetto community.



CUBAN CHURCHES HELP WITH HAITI RELIEF

Port-au-Prince, Haïti (BP): Like the Macedonians who, in New Testament times, gave out of their poverty to the Christians in Jerusalem, Cuban Baptists have done the same for fellow believers in Haïti.

Moved by reports of desperate need in Haiti following the January 12 earthquake, Cuban Bap-

tists recently gave US\$6,000 specifically earmarked for disaster relief in the neighbouring island nation.

Craig Culbreth, Florida Baptists' partnership missions director, presented the gift on behalf of the Western Cuba Baptist Convention to the Confraternite Missionaire Baptiste d'Haïti. Florida

Baptists have long-term partnerships with each group of Baptists.

The financial gift, the first Cuban Baptists have given to Haitian Baptists, "Was a huge sacrifice for these churches," Culbreth said. "They are hurting themselves but gave anyway. They gave out of their poverty.

"The churches in Cuba

have a heart for missions but because they are unable to travel they can't send missionaries," Culbreth said. "This offering was a result of them hearing about the earthquake and the needs as well as the great spiritual harvest that is happening in Haïti. They wanted their brothers and sisters to know they care."

WEA ID ISSUES FRESH CALL FOR AUTHENTIC MISSION

The International Director of the World Evangelical Alliance has told Christians at the Edinburgh 2010 conference in Scotland that an authentic Christian mission in the world today must go hand in hand with witness to Jesus Christ.

Dr Geoff Tunnicliffe issued his call in a seven-minute address delivered during the opening celebration of Edinburgh 2010 on June 3, 2010. The conference brought together more than 300 Christian leaders from across the traditions

and denominations to mark the 100th anniversary of the historic World Missionary Conference held in the Scottish capital in 1910.

Dr Tunnicliffe said: "I hope that in these few days we will not lose sight of the fact that we are celebrating the centenary of a missionary conference. This conference's theme is 'Witnessing to Christ today'. We are not talking about some vaguely theistic or humanist agenda, but bearing glad witness to Jesus Christ, the second person of the Trinity.

"This is the Christ to

whom the Scriptures bear witness, and central, in person and work to the good news of the gospel. There is no authentic Christian mission that does not bear witness to him in word and deed and character, both individually and corporately.

"And there is no authentic church that does not have a passionate commitment to mission, reflecting the heart of Father, Son and Holy Spirit."

Dr Tunnicliffe reminded Christian leaders that there is no corner of the world today where the mission of



Dr. Geoff Tunnicliffe addressing Edinburgh 2010
Photo by WCC/Gary Doak

the church is complete and that there are many communities and people groups that have still not had anyone to bear witness to Christ among them.

"WE ARE A RESURRECTED CHURCH," HAÏTI'S BISHOP

Anglican Bishop Jean Zaché Duracin of Haïti has said that he hopes the diocese and the country can "rebuild a new mentality."

He spoke after delivering to Episcopal Church Center personnel in New York what he called part one of the diocese's master plan for rebuilding. This an assessment of the damage to diocesan institutions by the magnitude-7 earthquake that struck on January 12.

"A new vision has to be in the master plan—not physical design and cost—but we

have to rebuild a new mentality for Haitian people," he said. "I find that we have learned so many things in the earthquake where all people—rich, poor, educated and non-educated people—are living in tents. I think that we have learned something [and the question is] how to use that to teach a new generation."

The bishop said that he wonders about "how to use the earthquake now to seek opportunities to live together in unity. It's very important."

Among the institutions that were destroyed, Duracin said, were the Holy Trinity Cathedral in Port-au-Prince and its adjacent educational complex that once served 4,000 students ranging from an elementary school to a trade school. Also lost were the secondary school College St. Pierre, the St. Vincent's School for Handicapped Children, the Episcopal University and the diocese's seminary. [ENS]

"A new vision has to be in the master plan—not physical design and cost—but we have to rebuild a new mentality for Haïtian people."

WESLEYANS WELCOME CHURCHES IN CUBA

Churches in Cuba are now a part of the global family of The Wesleyan Church.

David LeRoy (district superintendent of Atlantic District), Rod Guptill (pastor of Woods Harbour Wesleyan Church in Woods Harbour, Nova Scotia, Canada), and Dr. H. C. Wilson (general director of Global Part-

ners), all travelled to Cuba to welcome the Hermandad Cristiana Wesleyana Agraria de Cuba churches into The Wesleyan Church.

Pastor Guptill, a former Global Partners missionary, and Yuri Benitez, a Cuban-American Wesleyan church planter from the Iowa-Minnesota District, were instrumental in

establishing a rapport with these churches.

Led by Rev. Nehemias Cardenas, the Hermandad Cristiana Wesleyana Agraria de Cuba consists of 18 churches, 19 preaching points (a regularly assembled group of worshippers that may later become an established church), and 24 missions. Total current



Worshippers at a church in La Quinta, Cuba

membership is approximately three thousand.

NAZARENE DIRECTOR RETIRES

John Smee, Caribbean regional director in the Church of the Nazarene, retired July 01, 2010 after serving as director for sixteen years.

Dr. Smee began his service as regional director in April 1994. Prior to this he served as Mission Services director for 13 years. He also pastored churches in San Diego and Riverside, California, and he and his wife, Mary Alice, were missionaries to Jamaica. He is a graduate of Pasadena College/Point Loma Nazarene University and Naza-

rene Theological Seminary.

"This has not been a quickly-made decision," Smee said. "Throughout our 45 years of ministry, 16 years have been as Caribbean regional director as well as nearly a decade with our family as missionaries in Jamaica. These years of ministry with you in the Caribbean have been the most rewarding and enjoyable. For over 100 years, members of the Smee family have helped to establish the Church of the Nazarene and to work to see it grow and mature. We have been

blessed to be allowed to be a part of this ministry alongside you in the Caribbean. What a joy it has been to see God work and the Caribbean Nazarene Church mature and flourish. It is God who gave us this blessing and He will continue to lead His Church."

Rev. Luis Carlos Saenz is serving as the interim director of the Caribbean Region until a successor is elected and qualified by the General Board of the Church of the Nazarene in their February 2011 meeting. (NCN)



Rev. John Smee

10,000,000 ACCEPT CHRIST

How big is 10 million? If one is talking dollars, it would be a large sum, however, Jesus Film Harvest Partners (JFHP) is speaking of a more valuable asset than money—the priceless value of a soul. JFHP teams around the world recently reported over 10,000,000 decisions for Christ in the last 12 years. These decisions are the result of face-to-face encounters with team members using a variety of tools, with the JESUS Film being the primary means to share

God's love. Each encounter is a divine appointment as God is battling for the eternal destiny of His beloved. Through the JESUS Film, people are seeing Jesus' face and hearing Him speak in their native tongue, many for the first time in their lives. In excess of 250 language translations are used in more than 100 countries by 328 teams dedicated to reaching the people of their own culture. The field has requested the addition of 117 new teams.

Since 1998 its mission

has been to share God's love with the lost to help fulfil the Great Commission. Aggressive goals have been established to measure the effectiveness of the ministry, including 100 million evangelistic contacts (results to date 56,420,500), 15 million decisions for Christ (to date 10,032,942), 6 million initial discipleship follow ups (to date 3,557,080), and 46,000 preaching points (to date 23,663). Teams send in monthly reports updating each category.

JFHP teams around the world recently reported over 10,000,000 decisions for Christ in the last 12 years.

EAC CHAIR RECEIVES HONOURARY DOCTORATE

Rev. John O. Smith, REAC's Chair, was honoured for his many years of service in ministry in the Caribbean when a Doctor of Divinity *honoris causa* was conferred on him on July 18, 2010 in a special service at Central Assembly of God in Georgetown, Guyana where he serves as Senior Pastor.

The degree was con-

ferred by Dr. Zamekio Jackson, president of St. Thomas Christian College in Jackson College.

EAC was represented at the service by Bishop and Mrs. Gerry Seale, EAC staff.

Rev. Dr. John O. Smith is known widely throughout the region through his involvement in EAC and for his teaching and preaching ministry.



CRISIS IN AFGHANISTAN

The Religious Liberty Commission of the World Evangelical Alliance (WEA RLC) is deeply disturbed over the recent developments in Afghanistan, calling for the death of converts from Islam to other religions. The anti-Christian re-action followed the airing of a controversial TV documentary on May 27, 2010 on "Afghan Christian Converts" by a local television station in Afghanistan in which the identities of a some supposed Afghan Christian converts were revealed.

WEA RLC is also deeply

troubled by the statements made by Afghanistan Officials including the President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, H. E. Hamid Karzai. It is reported that he has instructed government officials to take immediate and serious action to prevent further conversions from Islam.

The events of the past few weeks where Afghan Officials suspended two church based aid organisations on alleged charges of proselytizing and the crack down on converts from Islam are further disturbing developments which signify

a non tolerant attitude toward religious freedom.

"We do not know how the whole world and especially the Global Church is silent and closing their eyes while thousands of their brothers and sisters are in pain, facing danger to their lives, death, torture, persecuted and called criminals," stated an Afghan Christian leader, who fled to safety, in an appeal to the WEA RLC.

WEA RLC calls on the worldwide church to pray for Afghanistan that there will be respect for the freedom of religion and that the government of Afghanistan will



H.E. Hamid Karzai

take a all necessary action to safeguard the lives and the rights of all Afghans and expatriates in Afghanistan.

TWO CARIBBEANS IN MISSIONS

Aleeca Scharschmidt, veterinarian, Jamaican and fulltime member of Wycliffe Caribbean, responded to God's call and spent three months in Chad. "The Sudanese refugees with little English were delightful. The opportunity to help out in their literacy classes brought such joy to me when they finally understood a sentence. I also did some administrative work. You won't hear about this in the "cool" missionary books. But it is the fuel that keeps the projects going. There is

such great administration need here on the field in Chad. It's unsettling to hear of people having to leave their projects because there's no one to do the work in the (centre's offices) capital. There are so many skilled Caribbean believers who could help and are idle, wanting jobs or working in unfulfilling jobs. There are jobs available here, if only they could see beyond trusting in a boss for a salary and trust in God instead!"

Curtis Campbell: focused

on translating Scripture, "I was not born with a passion for missions but my passion grew as I read the Bible and obeyed what it said. The more I obeyed God's Word the more I learned to trust Him and the more my life was transformed. While in Asia, I worked with the Linguistics team in Nepal. I was involved in revision and comprehensive checking of translation. I am now pursuing advanced studies in Canada to prepare for greater service in the area of Bible translation."

"There are so many skilled Caribbean believers who could help and are idle, wanting jobs or working in unfulfilling jobs."

ALBOUYSTOWN TECHNICAL CENTRE GRADS

The Guyanese contingent that participated in the 2008 leadership training week held in Barbados as a partnership between EAC and UNICEF have continued to utilize their training back home in their church, Heavenly Light World Outreach Ministries.

A major project has been the ongoing devel-

opment of the Albouystown Technical Centre, a ministry of the church.

At right is a picture of the teachers and graduates of their recent twelve week Electrical Installation Programme.

The church continues to expand its physical facilities to further develop these training programmes.



We're on the web:
www.caribbeanevangelical.org

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MISSION: In a spirit of servanthood the Evangelical Association of the Caribbean exists to unite Evangelical Christians in the Caribbean, giving them a regional identity, voice, and platform to extend the Kingdom of God through Christ-centered proclamation of the Gospel to all peoples, discipling the nations, and the transformation of society.

VISION: Every Church empowered to transform Caribbean society through biblical discipleship so that poverty is reduced, peace (wholeness) is increased, public justice is ensured, and national righteousness develops.

PURPOSE: Empowering the Church to transform society.

CONECAR '11—OCTOBER 17-20, 2011 IN GUYANA

WORD FROM THE CHAIR:

Jesus declared "My meat is to do the will of the Father and to finish His work." John 4:34 KJV.

Someone has remarked that "the greatest tragedy in life is to spend your whole life doing the wrong assignment." Tragic indeed and yet this is the sad commentary of many in the church. To reinforce the point of idleness Jesus told the story of the Husbandman who went out into the market place and hired labourers even unto the last hour. He asked one group why are you idle and He got the reply, "No one hired us." They were hired in the final hour.

Another saying that goes around is, "There are two sure things in life—death and income tax." I could

add a few more things that are sure in life and one is, "If you do not know your assignment someone will surely give you one." We are never short on advice and suggestions.

I was browsing through a bookstore recently in Florida and I discovered a number of books written on solving the present economic crisis in America—more advice and suggestions.

Success in life is tied to assignments. We are only truly successful in the assignment we have been given by God. The prayer we call the Lord's prayer reminds us "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth." Anything and everything else fails.

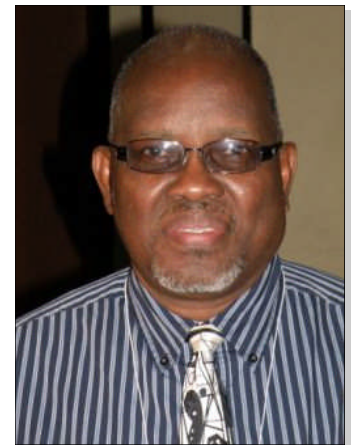
I have been put on earth by God to solve some prob-

lem, to fulfil an assignment, to use my gifting to achieve His purpose in my life.

Jesus Himself gave the eulogy for John-the-Baptist. He was beheaded and died in a dark Roman dungeon. Did he fulfil his purpose? Did he complete his God-given assignment? Ask Jesus. He declared that John was the greatest among men, apart from The Son of Man.

What about the woman with the alabaster box? She was seemingly insignificant but she anointed Jesus for His burial. Jesus said whenever this story is told, it will be a memorial to her.

Often we make the same mistake Peter made and ask the question, "What will this man do," John 21. Jesus' reply will always be the



**Rev. John O. Smith,
EAC Chair**

same, "What is that to you; follow Me," John 21:21.

It is comforting to note that just as no two persons have the same fingerprints, no two persons have the same assignment. This eliminates competition and comparison.

Just do the will of the Father.